

she had collected a few stems of grass, and found two eggs; these were all we met with; the nest was placed in the high fields where in the dry parts scarcely any vegetation is to be seen, while the swampy portions where the snow had melted were covered with coarse grass and the dwarf willow, which is the only thing approaching to a shrub on these barren treeless islands. The specimen sent was shot on the 27th of June on the south shore of Ia Sound in about $77\frac{3}{4}^{\circ}$ N. lat.

“The neighbouring country consisted of a belt of swampy ground covered with rank grass, with high, rugged, and barren mountains rising behind, covered with snow, except on their sharp ridges and steep sides; these mountains, which are interspersed with vast snow-clad plains, stretch away for miles inland, and rise into beautiful cones in the distance; here and there in a few sheltered spots a scanty supply of small flowers were to be found, mostly belonging to the following families: *Draba*, *Ranunculus*, *Saxifraga*, &c. The dark grey rocks were covered with lichens in great variety, but of a gloomy and sombre hue, in strict keeping with the wildness of the scene; here too the reindeer moss grew in great abundance. I may remark that the Ptarmigans were so tame, that we could easily have knocked them down with a long stick, doubtless from being so unaccustomed to the intrusion of human visitors.”

I cannot conclude without expressing a hope that some person visiting the country, such as the noble Lord Dufferin, will think of our museums as well as of gratifying their palates, and send us specimens of this new species, which would be highly prized.

2. DESCRIPTIONS OF TWO NEW SPECIES OF THE FAMILY HIRUN- DINIDÆ. BY J. GOULD, F.R.S., V.P.Z.S., ETC.

One an *Atticora* from Guatemala, the other a *Chelidon* from Cashmere.

ATTICORA PILEATA, Gould.

Size of the Sand Martin (*Cotyle riparia*); crown of the head, ear-coverts, and back of the neck black, with bluish reflexions; back deep brown, becoming darker on the upper tail-coverts; wings blackish-brown, darkest on the shoulders; tail moderately forked, and of the same colour as the wing; throat mottled with dark brown and greyish-white; breast white, blending into brown on the flanks; under tail-coverts largely developed, and of a dark purplish-brown; bill and feet dark purplish-brown; thighs brown, gartered with white.

Total length, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches; wing, $3\frac{3}{4}$; tail, $2\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $\frac{3}{8}$.

Hab. Guatemala.

Remark.—This bird is much smaller, but is of precisely the same form as the *Atticora fasciata*. Science is indebted to George Ure Skinner, Esq., for the introduction of this new and interesting Swallow.

CHELIDON CASHMERIENSIS, Gould.

Considerably smaller than the common species *Chelidon urbica*, but of precisely the same form and colour, except that the axillaries and under part of the shoulder are dark brown instead of greyish-white; the feathered tarsi occur in both species; crown of the head, back, and shoulders black, with steel-blue reflexions; tail brownish-black; throat, under surface, and rump white, stained with brown on the flanks.

Total length, $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches; wing, $3\frac{7}{8}$; tail, 2; tarsi, $\frac{7}{16}$.

Hab. Cashmere.

Remark.—For our knowledge of this species we are indebted to Dr. A. Leith Adams of the 22nd Regiment; several of whose discoveries in ornithology have already been recorded.

3. DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS BUTEO FROM MEXICO. BY PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., F.L.S., ETC.

Mr. J. H. Gurney has requested my attention to a specimen of a species of the genus *Buteo* belonging to the Norwich Museum, which I now exhibit. It was formerly in the collection of this Society, and was originally received along with other birds from the State of Tamaulipas, in Northern Mexico, by Mr. Gould. I have never seen any other bird quite resembling it—the nearest ally known to me being the *Buteo albonotatus* of G. R. Gray; from which, however, on comparison, it appears to be perfectly distinct. I agree with Mr. Gurney in considering it as probably undescribed; and in allusion to its nearly uniform sooty black plumage, propose to characterize it as

BUTEO FULIGINOSUS, sp. nov.

Saturate fuliginoso-brunneus unicolor; capite, dorso medio et alarum primariis extus paulo nigricantioribus: primariorum et secundariorum vexillis internis subtus albis, sex aut septem vittis nigris transversim notatis; tectricibus alarum inferioribus nigro-brunneis: cauda supra fuliginoso-brunnea, vittis quinque aut sex nigris obsolete transfasciata et nigro late terminata; cauda subtus alba et vittis dilutioribus: rostro nigro, pedibus flavis.

Long. tota 15·5, alæ 12·0, caudæ 6·5, tarsi 2·6.

Hab. In Mexico Boreali.

This paper will be printed in the 'Transactions,' and illustrated with a plate.

4. LIST OF BIRDS COLLECTED BY GEO. CAVENDISH TAYLOR, ESQ., IN THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS. BY PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., F.L.S., ETC.

A small collection of Birds, some of which I now exhibit, was